

CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

1430 N STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5901 JACK O'CONNELL

State Superintendent of Public Instruction PHONE: (916) 319-0800

September 12, 2007

Ms. Paula Higashi, Executive Director Commission on State Mandates 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814 RECEIVED

SEP 1 2 2007

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

Dear Ms. Higashi:

Correspondence from the Commission on State Mandates (CSM) dated August 24, 2007, requests information on the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP). I apologize for the delay in responding. Your letter arrived on September 6, 2007.

Specifically, you asked how many schools were selected for the II/USP based on certain California Education Code citations.

Our records indicate that since the inception of the II/USP in 1999, schools have participated in II/USP strictly on a voluntary basis. None of the participating schools were selected by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as prescribed in *Education Code* sections 52053(d) and (j), and 52056.5.

The II/USP was funded in three cohorts (1999, 2000, and 2001). Attached are two pages of a report (attachment 1) that shows all the schools that were eligible in each cohort, the schools that applied, and the schools that received II/USP and Comprehensive School Reform grants (P=II/USP and C=Comprehensive School Reform). The complete report is over 100 pages and can be sent electronically or a hard copy if preferred.

The attached *Analysis* of the 2001-02 Budget Bill by the Legislative Analyst's Office also has a write-up that summarizes the number of eligible schools, the number of schools that applied, and the number of slots that were available for the II/USP, for the first two cohorts (the only data available as of the writing of the report in February 2001). For 1999, there were 1,419 schools that applied for the 430 slots that were available. For 2000, 938 schools were eligible, 532 applied, and 430 slots were available.

I have also attached some correspondence that went out to local educational agencies that will provide you with additional information on the grant process that was implemented.

Ms. Paula Higashi, Executive Director September 12, 2007 Page 2

As required by Commission on State Mandates regulations, we are including a "Proof of Service" indicating that the parties included on the mailing list that accompanied your letter have been provided copies of this letter via either the United States mail or, in the case of state agencies, Interagency Mail Service.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the statements made in this document true and complete to the best of my own knowledge or information or belief.

If you have any questions regarding this subject, please contact me at (916) 324-4728 or by e-mail at cbingham@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cawl Bingham, Director

Fiscal Policy Division

CB:bs

Attachments

PROOF OF SERVICE

Test Claim Name: Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program Claim Number:

I, the undersigned, declare as follows: I am employed in the County of Sacramento, State of California, I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to the within entitled cause; my business address is 1430 N Street, Suite 5602, Sacramento, CA 95814.

On September 12, 2007, I served the attached comment of the California Department of Education in said cause, by delivery to the Commission on State Mandates and by placing a true copy, therefore: (1) to claimants and nonstate agencies enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid in the United States Mail at Sacramento, California; and (2) to state agencies in the normal pickup location at 1430 N Street, Suite 5602, for Interagency Mail Service, addressed as indicated on the attached mailing list:

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the fore going is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on September 12, 2007, at Sacramento, California.

Bob Shotts



August 13, 1999

Dear Principal:

Over the last four months, we have periodically written to your district superintendent about an important new program called the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP), which is part of the recently established Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA). To be eligible, a school's results from the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) achievement tests must place the school in the lower half of the statewide distribution for both 1998 and 1999. I am now writing to let you know that Superintendent Eastin has notified your superintendent that your school is eligible to participate in this program. Because schools must apply through their district office, she has invited your superintendent to apply on your behalf.

I encourage you to contact your superintendent for further information. In addition, information on the II/USP and other elements of the PSAA is available on our PSAA web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa.

Due to the requirements of the enacting legislation (SB1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999), the timelines are very short. We must receive a response from your district superintendent postmarked no later than August 26, 1999.

Strong partnerships are essential if this program is to succeed, and we look forward to working with you to build an effective accountability program in California.

Sincerely

Scott Hill

Chief Deputy Superintendent

Accountability and Administration

SH:pm

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STATE PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION FORM

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TO APPLY FOR AN II/USP PLANNING GRANT:

- 1) Check the box next to the name of each school applying
 - 2) Sign, complete, and copy this form.
- 3) Return the entire original form via overnight mail. Keep the copy.
 - 4) Email the name of your overnight mail carrier and the **tracking number** to CDE according to the instructions on page 2 of the accompanying "Application Process for State Planning Grants".

All applications must be postmarked on or before August 26, 1999. Priority will be given to schools with the earliest postmarks. All applications postmarked August 20 or earlier will be given the same priority.

RETURN FORM OVERNIGHT MAIL TO:

JSP)

California Department of Education Office of Policy and Evaluation

Educational Planning and Information Center

721 Capitol Mall, 4th Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814 ATIN: Pat McCabe **QUESTIONS?** Call the Educational Planning and Information Center at (916) 657-2273.

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Email: FAX: END OF LIST Telephone: Date: Signature of District Superintendent or Designee: 6000001 Golden Poppy Elementary Printed Name:

When will CDE provide us with a list of external evaluators?

On September 1, 1999 CDE will furnish each district with an II/USP planning grant school a list of external evaluators. By October 1, 1999, the district must contract with an external evaluator from this list for each of its II/USP planning grant schools. The external evaluator will identify weaknesses at the school that contribute to the school's below average academic performance and, along with a school and community team, will develop an action plan to improve pupil academic achievement. Under guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education on June 10, 1999, external evaluators must be organizations or individuals external to the district in which the II/USP schools are located.

What is the relationship between the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD) Program and the II/USP? May a district apply for both a CSRD implementation grant and a state planning grant on behalf of the same school?

The first cohort of schools in the II/USP will include not only the approximately 330 planning grant schools but also about 100 schools that will receive federal implementation grants through the CSRD Program. The application deadline for CSRD was July 30, 1999. Districts that applied for CSRD grants on behalf of their schools are encouraged to apply for state planning grants on behalf of the same schools.

Schools that apply for both CSRD implementation grants and state planning grants will first be reviewed for CSRD grants. If the schools do not receive implementation grants, they will then be considered for planning grants; schools may not receive both federal and state grants. To apply for state planning grants, districts with CSRD applicant schools must follow the same procedures and meet the same deadlines as districts without CSRD applicant schools; submission of the CSRD application does not constitute an application for a planning grant.

What if I have a follow-up question?

If you have specific questions about the application process outlined in this letter, please call the Educational Planning and Information Center at (916) 657-2273. Inquiries about external evaluators should be directed to Jody McCarthy at (916) 657-3282. Other questions about the II/USP should be directed to Tomas Lopez at (916) 657-3510 or Basha Millhollen at (916) 657-2766.

Are there any other requirements that a district must satisfy in order to apply on behalf of its schools?

In applying for state planning grants, you should comply with any local requirements established by your own governing board. We also encourage you to contact the principals at eligible schools to ascertain their interest in applying for this program. However, the law does not require any type of formal action or certification by your local governing board or principals for you to apply on behalf of your eligible schools.

When will CDE accept applications for the state planning grants?

We will give first priority to any signed applications postmarked **August 20** or earlier. Signed applications postmarked August 21 will be given second priority; August 22 will be given third priority, and so on. The final cut-off date will be **August 26**. Once again, all applications must be returned by **overnight mail** to be considered.

Will the list of eligible schools be posted on the Internet?

On August 17, CDE plans to post the list of schools eligible for II/USP on its PSAA web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa. The list of eligible schools will remain available on the web site until August 31, 1999.

How will CDE select the schools that will receive planning grants?

The PSAA provides that schools in the lower half of the statewide distribution based on both 1998 and 1999 STAR achievement test results are eligible for the II/USP. These eligible schools will be grouped into five equal ranks based on STAR achievement test results. The selection process must ensure that II/USP schools reflect an array of school performance levels based on these equal-sized ranks. The PSAA also requires that II/USP schools reflect statewide proportionate representation according to grade levels (elementary, middle, and high schools) as well as geographic distribution of rural and urban schools. Application filing dates will be used to establish priority among schools of similar types. Finally, it is possible that some eligible schools that do not volunteer may be included in the program to ensure the appropriate representation of schools.

When will CDE notify districts and schools which schools were selected?

The schools selected for state planning grants and the districts in which these schools are located will be notified by September 1. At that time, they will also receive detailed instructions about all activities that are required under the law to participate in the II/USP. A list of planning grant recipients will be posted on the PSAA web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa. Districts that applied for participation in the II/USP but did not have any schools selected will also be notified by September 10.



July 6, 1999



Dear Superintendent:

On June 14, 1999, Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin sent you information about the Immediate Intervention/ Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP), established by the Public Schools Accountability Act (Senate Bill 1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999). My purpose in this letter is to update you on the II/USP, particularly to explain the application process for schools interested in receiving planning grants for this program.

The law requires that by August 15, 1999, the California Department of Education (CDE) must notify you if any of your schools qualify for the II/USP. To be eligible, schools must place in the bottom half of the statewide distribution for both the 1998 and 1999 Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. Schools with fewer than 100 valid STAR scores in either year will be excluded. These small schools, along with alternative schools, continuation high schools and county schools, will participate in an alternative accountability system to be developed by July 1, 2000.

Eligible schools will have the opportunity to apply for grants to improve academic performance. As Superintendent Eastin noted in her letter of June 14, pupil achievement will be carefully monitored in II/USP schools. Schools that meet performance growth targets will be eligible for financial and non-monetary rewards; schools that fail to meet these targets over time may be subject to local or state interventions. Local intervention may occur if a participating school does not meet minimum growth targets within 12 months following receipt of implementation funding. State intervention may occur if a participating school does not meet its performance goals within 24 months after receipt of implementation funding.

I want to remind you that you will have to respond to the August notification very quickly if you are eligible for the program and are interested in participating. Later, this letter will explain the application process in detail. While the II/USP may seem somewhat complex, the application process for a planning grant will be very simple. Districts and schools will not need to complete a lengthy application to be considered for this portion of the II/USP.

State Planning Grant Schools

By September 1, 1999 about 330 schools will be selected to receive state II/USP planning grants from those schools that volunteer for the program. These grants will amount to \$50,000 for

developing school action plans with the purpose of improving pupil achievement. After approval of the action plans, schools will receive grants to implement the plans, sometime in the spring or early summer of 2000. State implementation grants will be a minimum of \$50,000, up to \$200 per pupil. Under the law, a participating school or school district must match the amount of state implementation grants from any new or existing sources of funding (Education Code Section 52054.5).

CSRD Applicants and State Planning Grants

The first cohort of schools in the II/USP will include not only the approximately 330 planning grant schools but also about 100 schools that will receive federal implementation grants through the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD) Program. While CSRD applicants must meet the basic eligibility criteria for the II/USP, they will participate in a separate grant application process, which is highly competitive. Successful CSRD applicants will be notified separately from planning grant schools of their selection and move directly to the implementation phase of the II/USP.

The CSRD application process has already begun. If your district is not participating in this process, I recommend that you instead consider applying for state-funded planning grants under the II/USP.

For those schools that are already pursuing CSRD funding, I encourage them also to apply for state planning grants. Schools that apply for both CSRD implementation grants and state planning grants will first be reviewed for CSRD grants. If the schools do not receive implementation grants, they will then be considered for planning grants; schools may not receive both federal and state grants. In order to apply for a state-planning grant, CSRD applicants must follow the same procedures as non-CSRD applicants; submission of the CSRD application does not constitute application for an II/USP planning grant.

Application Procedures for Planning Grants

As I noted earlier, applying for a state-planning grant will be very simple. On August 13 the CDE will mail you a list of schools in your district that are eligible to receive state planning grants under the II/USP. If none of your schools qualify, you will receive a notice to that effect. In order for one or more of your schools to be considered for a planning grant, you will simply have to:

- Check a box on the CDE's list of schools next to the name of each school that is applying for a planning grant.
- Sign the list (or have an authorized representative sign the list).
- Mail the list back to us by overnight mail. You should obtain proof of mailing and a tracking number in case there are problems with mail delivery. We will not accept faxes in lieu of return mail.

• Confirm by e-mail that you have returned the list to CDE. Include the name of the vendor that you used to mail the list along with the tracking number. This procedure is for document control only. We will not accept applications by e-mail, only by surface mail.

The application material to be mailed on August 13 will include the return mail address and email address along with your list of eligible schools.

Application Filing Dates for Planning Grants

We will give first priority to any signed list postmarked **August 20** or earlier. Signed lists postmarked August 21 will be given second priority; August 22 will be given the third priority, and so on. The final cut-off date will be August 26. We will not accept applications postmarked after that date. Once again, all lists must be returned by **overnight mail** in order to be considered.

Posting List of Eligible Schools on Web Site

On August 17, we plan to post the list of schools eligible for II/USP on our PSAA web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa. This will ensure that the information will be available to you even if you do not receive your list promptly through the mail. In the event that you do not receive your list by August 19 and you have eligible schools that are interested in participating in II/USP, you should contact the Office of Policy and Evaluation at (916) 657-2273 for directions on how to proceed.

Selection Process

The Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA) provides that schools in the lower half of the statewide distribution for 1998 and 1999 STAR are eligible for II/USP. These eligible schools will be placed in five "decile" rankings based on STAR results. The selection process must ensure that II/USP schools reflect an array of school performance levels based on these decile rankings. The PSAA also requires that II/USP schools should provide statewide proportionate representation according to grade levels (elementary, middle, and high schools) as well as geography. Application filing dates will be used to establish priority between schools of similar types. Finally, it is possible that even if 330 or more schools apply for planning grants, some schools that do not volunteer may be included in the program in order to have the appropriate representation of schools.

As I mentioned earlier in this letter, schools selected for planning grants will be notified by September 1, at which time they will also receive detailed instructions about all activities that are required under the law as well as a statewide list of external evaluators. By October 1, 1999, each district with an II/USP planning grant school must contract with an external evaluator from the statewide list for that planning grant school. The external evaluator will identify weaknesses at the school that contribute to the school's below average academic performance and, along with a school site and community team, develop an action plan to improve pupil academic achievement. Under guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education on June 10, 1999, external evaluators must be organizations or individuals external to the district in which the II/USP schools are located.

Projected Timeline

The timeline for notification, application, and selection is extremely tight:

- You will be mailed a list of your eligible II/USP schools on August 13, 1999.
- On August 17 a list of eligible schools will be available via the Internet.
- You will have from August 20 to August 26 to apply to CDE for II/USP planning grants via overnight mail.
- You will be notified by September 1 regarding which if any of your schools will receive planning grants. We will also post the list of planning grant recipients on our web site soon after informing districts and schools.

Since there is only about two weeks between notification and selection, it is imperative that you now take steps to satisfy any local requirements for your schools to receive II/USP planning grants.

Follow-up Questions

If you have general questions about the II/USP or about the PSAA, please consult our web site at < http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa. If you have specific questions about how to apply for a planning grant, please call either Paula Wenzl at (916) 657-3380 or Richard Fattig at (916) 657-3796. Questions about the planning grants and school action plans should be directed to Basha Millhollen at (916) 657-2766. Inquiries about external evaluators should be directed to Jody McCarthy at (916) 657-2382.

Sincerely,

Scott Hill

Chief Deputy Superintendent

Accountability and Administration

SH:rf

CC: County Superintendents

Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program:

Application Process for State Planning Grants

The Public Schools Accountability Act (Senate Bill 1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999) requires that by August 15, 1999, the California Department of Education (CDE) invite eligible schools to participate in the Immediate Intervention/ Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP). The accompanying "State Planning Grant Application Form" lists the eligible schools in your district. You should use this form to apply for II/USP State Planning Grants for these schools.

Which schools are eligible for the II/USP?

A school is eligible and appears on the attached application form if results from the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) achievement tests place it in the lower half of the statewide distribution for **both** 1998 and 1999. Schools with fewer than 100 valid STAR scores in either year are excluded from consideration. These small schools, along with alternative schools, continuation high schools, and county-administered schools, will participate in an alternative accountability system to be developed by July 1, 2000.

What are II/USP state planning and implementation grants?

By September 1, 1999 the CDE will select about 330 schools to receive state II/USP planning grants from those schools that volunteer for the program. These \$50,000 grants are to be used for developing school action plans to improve pupil achievement.

After submission of the action plans to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the approval of applications for funding by the State Board of Education (SBE), schools will receive grants to implement the plans, sometime in the spring or early summer of 2000. State implementation grants will be a minimum of \$50,000, up to \$200 per pupil. Under the law, a participating school or school district must match the amount of state funding from any new or existing sources of funding (Education Code Section 52054.5).

What are the responsibilities of schools that receive II/USP funding to improve pupil achievement?

Please note that pupil achievement will be carefully monitored in schools that are receiving II/USP funding. Schools that meet performance growth targets will be eligible for financial and non-monetary rewards; schools that fail to meet these targets may be subject to local or state interventions. For more information regarding the Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA), please refer to our PSAA web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa.

How does a district apply for II/USP planning grants on behalf of its schools?

It is very simple to apply for state planning grants. For one or more of your schools to be considered for a planning grant, the district superintendent (or designee) should simply review the attached application and:

- Check the box to the left of the name of **each school** on the list that is applying for a planning grant.
- Sign the application. If the list of schools has more than one page, please initial the additional pages in the box (es) provided. If the district superintendent is unavailable to sign the application, we will also accept the signature of a designee. Please provide all the information requested on the form.
- Make and retain a copy of the completed application.
- Have the original signed application mailed back to CDE by overnight mail at the address indicated on the "Application Form." Return all pages of the application. You should obtain proof of mailing and a tracking number from your overnight mail service to document the mailing date in case there are problems with mail delivery. Faxes in lieu of overnight mail will not be accepted.
- Confirm by e-mail that you have mailed the application to CDE. This procedure is for document tracking only. We will not accept applications via e-mail, only by overnight mail. You have two options to confirm by e-mail:

[either]

1. Complete and submit an electronic confirmation form available through the Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA) web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa>.

[or]

- 2. Send a confirmation to the following e-mail address: <EPIC@cde.ca.gov>. Please include
 - The name of the district superintendent or the name and title of the designee (if applicable)
 - The name of the district
 - The phone number of the district superintendent, or the phone number of the designee (if applicable)
 - The name of the overnight mail carrier that was used, a mail tracking number, and date of mailing

If none of your eligible schools is interested in applying, it is not necessary to return the application or to confirm by e-mail.

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	Certificated Staff Incentive Program Funding	ıgh 2001-02	Appropriation in Proposed Budget Act Expenditure Level	\$20	100 \$100	100 100	\$250 \$200	Amount proposed in Governor's budget.
rigure s	Certificated Staff Program Funding	1999-00 Through 2001-02 (In Millions)		1999-00	2000-01	2001-02 ^a	Totals	a Amount proposed

The II/USP provides state and federal support for school-wide dents in each cohort for 2001-02. The Governor's budget continues form efforts at low-performing schools. The 2001-02 Governor's Bu proposes \$113.8 million from the General Fund (Proposition 98) for program. The budget would provide planning grants for a third col horts (782 schools in total). Figure 4 show the schools and number of of 430 schools, and implementation grants for the first and second fund 78 schools with federal funds, which we discuss below.

evaluators to assist in developing the reform plans. Once a school's \$50,000 planning grants to develop a comprehensive school reform p As part of the planning phase, the schools must hire qualified exten In their first year in the program, participating schools are provi of funding for schools that continue to struggle. The first cohort will re is approved by the SBE, the school receives annual implementation gr of up to \$200 per enrolled student. Schools will receive the impleme tion grants for two years, and may be granted a third year of funding the SBE if they continue to struggle to meet their API growth targets the end of their two-year implementation grant in July 2002 and po SBE can decide to impose sanctions after either the second or third tially could face sanctions as early as fall of 2002.

participate in the first II/USP cohort in 1999-00. Under the original Program Eligibility Has Changed. Any school whose average dent score was below the 50th percentile on the Stanford-9 was eligibile ria, over half of the schools in the state were eligible to apply for Statutes of 2000 (SB 1552, Alpert), amended the PSAA to change the program, and 1,419 schools applied for the 430 slots available. Chapter

Legislative Analyst's Office

bility criteria to be based upon the API. As revised by Chapter 695, schools in the lower half of the API which did not meet their API growth targets were eligible. Based upon 1999-00 API scores, 938 schools were eligible in 2000. Of the 938 schools, 532 applied for the 430 slots available.

Participation in II/USP^a in 2001-02

Cohort 1 (participation started 1999-00)

- Grant: Implementation.
- Number of Schools: 352^b
- Number of Students: 285,000^c

Cohort 2 (participation started 2000-01)

- Grant: Implementation
- Number of Schools: 430^d
- Number of Students: 430,500
- Cohort 3 (participation starts 2001-02) Grant: Planning
- Number of Schools: 430
- Number of Students: Unknown

- Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program.

 b An additional 78 schools are funded with federal funds.

 c An additional 89,000 students are funded with federal funds.
- Some schools in Cohort 2 may apply to be funded with federal

Achieving Schools. The policy change of Chapter 695 to focus on schools not making their growth targets makes sense to ensure that schools that diate assistance program since it reached its annual growth target. Even ticipation in this program. Such a low-performing school is likely to be in greater need of external assistance than a school in the fifth decile (close Accordingly, we recommend the Legislature expand the eligibility for the Legislature Should Broaden II/USP Eligibility to Include Lowestare struggling to improve receive additional resources. However, only with the lowest API score in the entire state is not eligible for this immewe believe that its improvement could potentially be expedited by parfocusing on schools not achieving their growth targets may be too narrow. For example, under the eligibility criteria in Chapter 695, the school though such a low-performing school is showing signs of improvement, to the state average) which did not meet its annual API growth target. II/USP program to all schools in the lowest two deciles of API ranking.

I nainlation Anatomatic Office



DELAINE EASTIN

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

June 14, 1999

Dear County and District Superintendents:

This letter provides important information about applying for participation in a new grants-based program for underperforming schools, established by the Public Schools Accountability Act (Senate Bill 1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999). The act provides a wonderful opportunity for schools to participate in a comprehensive program to improve student performance.

Schools selected for the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP) will receive a minimum of \$50,000 or up to \$200 per student for planning and/or implementation of comprehensive reforms to improve student performance. Student achievement will be monitored carefully in this program. Schools that meet improvement goals will be eligible for financial and non-monetary rewards; schools that fail to meet growth targets over time, despite support and financial assistance, may be subject to district or state interventions. This letter is designed to help you determine if your schools are eligible for the program and what steps are necessary to participate.

Who is eligible?

Under this law, schools scoring in the lower half of the statewide distribution of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program in **both 1998 and 1999** will be eligible to participate in II/USP. Schools with fewer than 100 pupils with valid STAR scores in either year will be excluded. These small schools, along with alternative schools, continuation high schools and county schools, will participate in an alternative accountability system required to be developed by July 1, 2000.

Underperforming schools that need time and assistance to develop improvement plans should apply for state planning grants. Schools that have demonstrated readiness to implement comprehensive school reform and that meet state eligibility requirements may apply for federal Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration funds under this program.

How is eligibility determined?

Each district should first review its 1998 STAR results to determine if any of its schools fall in the lower half of the statewide distribution. The 1999 STAR results will be available by June 30, 1999. Attached to this letter is a copy of the statewide 1998 STAR results so that you can

compare your schools' results to the statewide averages. (See Attachment A.) If the percentage of pupils at a school scoring at or above the 50[%] national percentile rank (NPR) for all content areas is lower than the statewide figures, the school falls in the lower half.

Within a school, if some of the results are above and some below the statewide numbers, a rough estimate can be made by comparing the school's reading and mathematics results to the statewide reading and mathematics results. Assuming that all grade levels in the school have about the same number of students, a simple comparison of the school's reading and mathematics results to the statewide reading and mathematics results will enable you to make a rough estimate of whether a school is above or below the statewide average. Attachment B provides a worksheet to help you make this calculation.

If you think there is a possibility that any of your schools scored in the lower half of the statewide distribution in 1998 and that you would like to participate in II/USP, you should consider asking your local governing board for approval, as soon as possible. The deadlines for the program are very tight, and it will be important for you to apply quickly if your schools are eligible--that is why I am sending this letter to you at this time.

How do schools apply for an II/USP planning grant?

II/USP planning grants will be available to approximately 330 underperforming schools that need the time and assistance to systematically review student achievement and other variables in the school and to create a data-driven plan to improve student performance. II/USP schools will apply through their district office to the state for a \$50,000 planning grant. The application process for this program will be relatively simple, and selection will be on a first-come, first-served basis, within selection criteria established by law.

All eligible II/USP schools will be invited to participate in August. Districts will then have to respond quickly as to whether any of their schools will volunteer to participate. Districts will be notified of the final list of selected II/USP planning schools by September 1, 1999. These schools will be required to contract with an external evaluator to work with the school community on a comprehensive needs assessment and action plan. Upon district and state approval of the action plan, schools will receive a minimum of \$50,000 or up to \$200 per student for implementation of the plan.

Which schools should apply for II/USP implementation grants?

Approximately 100 underperforming schools which are truly ready to implement a comprehensive school reform and serve as "lighthouses" for the rest of the state will be eligible to implement their plans under this program with federal Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD) funds. Schools applying for federally funded CSRD implementation grants must demonstrate readiness to implement reforms. In addition to being in the lower half of the statewide distribution on STAR for 1998 and 1999, these schools must be on either the 1997 or 1998 Program Improvement list and be on the CDE certified Program Improvement list. *Readiness* will be measured by an assessment of the school's analysis of its needed reforms and its plans for implementing these reforms to improve student achievement. The due date for applications is July 30, 1999. For more information about how to apply, refer to http://www.cde.ca.gov/iasa/csrd. Because I am anticipating that the CSRD process will be very competitive and not all applications will be funded, I urge you to consider also applying for the planning grants.

Where can you find additional information?

Given the timeline, it is important that districts and schools immediately assess each school's needs and readiness to participate in either the planning or implementation portion of II/USP. (See Attachment C for a flowchart regarding planning and implementation.)

More details about applying for planning grants will be provided later this month. For more information about the Public Schools Accountability Act, please consult the CDE web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa. Additional information about the II/USP planning and implementation grants is available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/iiusp.

Questions regarding the identification of schools eligible for II/USP should be directed to Bill Padia at (916) 657-2757. Questions about II/USP planning and implementation grants should be directed to Hanna Walker at (916) 657-2577.

I will continue to give you updates regarding the II/USP as additional details become available. I am attempting to give you as much advance notice as possible, but, as a result, I know this information is incomplete. We will endeavor to update you on these opportunities as soon as possible. Remember--accountability is coming to California. By being one of the pioneers, you will help to create a better final product. I urge you to be one of our leaders in shaping a fair and high quality system of accountability in our great state.

I hope you have an enjoyable summer, and I look forward to our work together to implement our state's educational reform efforts.

Sincerely,

DELAINE EASTIN

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DE:pm

Attachments

4 M 11 DOD 2.27 DR/

State: California

Total Enrollment Reported: 4,431,786

4,128,022 Total Number Tested: 798,769 Total LEP Tested:

STAR State Summary Report for All Students

N = 408323

600.2

N = 425961

N= 443340

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR

% Scoring Above 75th NPR % Scoring Above 25th NPR

Total Reading NPR for "Avg." Student Score

N= 398275

N = 41598

2 N= 406331

N= 404147

590.7 N= 412326

564.9

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR

% Scoring Above 25th NPR Mean Scaled Score

NPR for "Avg." Student Score

Mean Scaled Score

Fotal Math

% Scoring Above 75th NPR

N= 431615

N= 437039

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR % Scoring Above 25th NPR

Mean Scaled Score

Spelling

NPR for "Avg." Student Score

Language

% Scoring Above 75th NPR

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR

% Scoring Above 25th NPR

Mean Scaled Score

Science

NPR for "Avg." Student Score

% Scoring Above 75th NPR

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR

% Scoring Above 75th NPR % Scoring Above 25th NPR

NPR for "Avg." Student Score

% Scoring At or Above 50th NPR

% Scoring Above 25th NPR

Mean Scaled Score

NPR for "Avg." Student Score

Mean Scaled Score

Social Science

% Scoring Above 75th NPR

682.2 N= 302671 65 697.4 N= 306508 46 65 699.9 N= 301622 **Spring, 1998** ±(4)‰ 10 N= 355762 677.2 N=352819 N= 357166 689.7 N= 359866 N= 355631 N = 392739N= 388378 N=391174 N= 39491 **a(3)** N= 379055 N=384293 N= 382325 667.8 N= 390659 ಸ(ಕ್ರಿ⊳ 643.8 N = 393217Grades

Immediate Intervention/Underperforming School Program (II/USP)

How to estimate where your school scored in the 1998 STAR statewide distribution

This worksheet is for local use only. Do not submit to California Department of Education.

·	Your School			State		
A	В	C	D	E	F	G
	READING	MATHEMATICS	READING & MATHEMATICS	READING	MATHEMATICS	READING & MATHEMATICS
·	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3			Step 4
Grades tested statewide for 1998 STAR	Enter the % scoring at or above 50th NPR in READING for each grade tested at YOUR SCHOOL ¹	Enter the % scoring at or above 50th NPR in MATHEMATICS for each grade tested at YOUR SCHOOL ¹	Add Column B + Column C for each grade tested at YOUR SCHOOL	STATE average % scoring at or above 50th NPR in READING	% scoring at or above 50th NPR	Add Column E STATE average + Column F STATE average ONLY for those grades that have been tested at YOUR SCHOOL
2				40	43	·
. 3				38	40	
4				40	39	
5				41	41	
6				42	46	
7				. 44	42	
8				46	42	
9				34	47	
10				32_	41	
11				36	43	

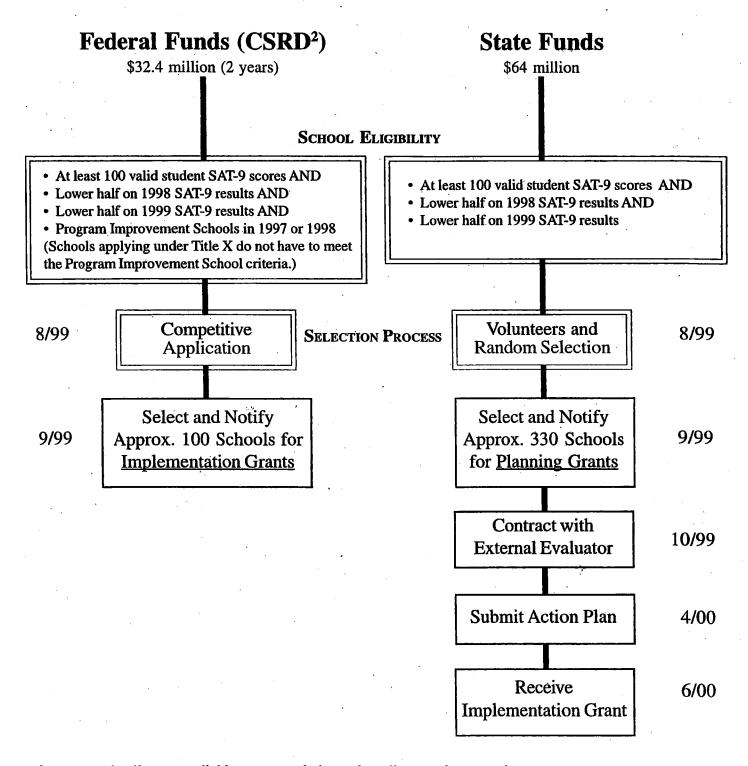
	Step 5	Step 6
TOTALS:		
•	Add Column D	Add Column G
	for all grades	for all grades
	tested at YOUR	tested at YOUR
	SCHOOL	SCHOOL ·

- If <u>TOTAL Column D</u> (Step 5) is <u>GREATER THAN TOTAL Column G</u> (Step 6), your school is probably in the <u>upper half</u> of the statewide 1998 STAR distribution.
- If TOTAL Column D (Step 5) is LESS THAN TOTAL Column G (Step 6), your school is probably in the lower half of the statewide 1998 STAR distribution.

NOTE: Use this worksheet only for schools having at least 100 valid 1998 STAR test scores.

¹ You can obtain school percentages from the 1998 STAR Summary Report (by school, by grade) for All Students from CDE website: http://star.cde.ca.gov

Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999 Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP)¹



¹ Program details are available at our website: http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa

²CSRD (Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program) details are available at our website: http://www.cde.ca.gov/iasa/csrd/



DELAINE EASTIN State Superintendent of Public Instruction

August 12, 1999

Dear District Superintendents:

Over the last four months, I have periodically written to you about an important new program called the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP), which is part of the recently established Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999. It is now time to apply to participate in this program, and I would like to strongly encourage your involvement.

My office has heard from a number of school districts that are on the path to improved student achievement, and some of these districts have expressed interest in including all of their eligible schools under the II/USP. This interest confirms what I have always believed about California's public education system—that districts and schools in this state will do what it takes to raise the achievement for all students in their communities. Educators are willing to make the long-term commitment to improve their schools.

Enclosed you will find the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program: Application Process for State Planning Grants. You will also find the State Planning Grant Application Form, which lists the schools in your district that are eligible to participate in the II/USP. Due to the requirements of the enacting legislation (SB1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999), the timelines are extremely short, and your application must be postmarked no later than August 26, 1999. Priority will be given to schools on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please consider this exciting opportunity by applying on behalf of *all* the eligible schools in your district. The II/USP requires a diverse selection of schools, so the more schools from your district that apply, the greater your chances are of having one or more of your schools chosen to participate. Selected schools will receive new funds to support planning and implementation of reforms over a three-year period. Student achievement will be carefully monitored, and schools must meet improvement goals. Schools that fail to meet growth targets may be subject to district or state interventions; on the other hand, schools and teachers who work in underperforming schools that meet or exceed growth targets may be eligible for monetary and non-monetary awards in the future. Incentives to improve academic achievement are an important part of Governor Davis' reform effort.

Finally, I strongly encourage you to confer immediately with your principals who work in the schools that are eligible for the II/USP. Because of the short timeline, we have taken the liberty of informing these principals, through a separate mailing, of their schools' eligibility. I hope this will facilitate your decision-making about this significant opportunity.

Strong partnerships are critical for success in this program. Accordingly, my office stands ready to work with you and support local efforts to make the II/USP work for the students in your community.

If you have any questions regarding the selection process for the II/USP, please contact me or Bill Padia, Director of the Office of Planning and Evaluation, at (916) 657-2757.

Sincerely,

DELAINE EASTIN

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DE:ssg Enclosures

Commission on State Mandates

Original List Date:

7/3/2002

Mailing Information: Other

Last Updated:

4/26/2007

List Print Date: Claim Number:

09/07/2007

Issue:

01-TC-22

Academic Performance Index

Mailing List

TO ALL PARTIES AND INTERESTED PARTIES:

Each commission mailing list is continuously updated as requests are received to include or remove any party or person on the mailing list. A current mailing list is provided with commission correspondence, and a copy of the current mailing list is available upon request at any time. Except as provided otherwise by commission rule, when a party or interested party files any written material with the commission concerning a claim, it shall simultaneously serve a copy of the written material on the parties and interested parties to the claim identified on the mailing list provided by the commission. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.2.)

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State Controller's Office (B-08)	T (040) 000 5040
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Mandate Resource Services	Tel: (916) 727-1350
5325 Elkhorn Blvd. #307	1,51. (0.10) 121 1000
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The state of

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	· ,	
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